

Message Text

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21

ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NASA-01 NSC-05 /035 W

----- 127115

R 060857Z AUG 75 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2420

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 2947

PASS NASA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINR, TSPA, UN, SF

SUBJ: SPACE OBJECT REPORTED IN CAPE PROVINCE

REF: STATE A-6343 (JULY 25, 1973)

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM CONGEN CAPETOWN.

QTE. 1. CAPE TOWN WEEK-END PRESS REPORTED METALLIC SPHERE CRASHED TO EARTH, JULY 29, ON FARM NEAR JOUBERTINA, CAPE PROVINCE. ACCORDING TO REPORTS, FARMERS IN AREA STATE THAT SPHERE FELL AFTER SEVERAL BRIGHT UFO'S HAD BEEN SPOTTED STREAKING ACROSS THE NIGHT SKY AND THAT IT MUST HAVE BEEN MADE OF VERY HARD METAL AND FALLEN FROM GREAT HEIGHT BECAUSE IT SHATTERED A BOULDER ON IMPACT AND WAS ONLY SLIGHTLY DENTED. OBJECT IS DESCRIBED AS 13 KG BALL, 67 CM IN DIAMETER WITH GAPING HOLE AT ONE END AND PIPE-LIKE PROTRUSION AT OTHER. SHELL HAS UNIDENTIFIED "FAINT LETTERING". PRESS REPORTS OBJECT HANDED OVER TO SECURITY POLICE AT OUDTSHOORN WHO WERE AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRETORIA.

2. ACCORDING TO WEEK-END ARGUS, OBJECT IS ALMOST EXACT REPLICA OF FOUR SPHERES RECOVERED IN 1963 NEAR NOUPOORT THAT WERE IDENTIFIED AS PARTS OF OXYGEN TANKS OF BOOSTER ROCKET THAT PUT
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JOHN GLENN INTO ORBIT.

3. CAPE TIMES, AUGUST 5, REPORTS INTERVIEW WITH DR. ARTHUR BLEKSLEY, "WELL-KNOWN SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITY ON SPACE EXPLORATION", IN WHICH HE DOES NOT THINK OBJECT IS PART OF BOOSTER ROCKET BECAUSE THESE PARTS RETURN TO EARTH IMMEDIATELY AFTER LAUNCHING AND HE IS NOT AWARE OF ANY ROCKET LAUNCHINGS IN IMMEDIATE PAST. UNQTE.

2. EMBOFFS HAVE AN APPOINTMENT WITH DR. FRANK HEWITT, DEPUTY PRESIDENT SA COUNCIL SCIENTIFIC INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (CSIR) FOR FRIDAY AUG.8. IT WILL BE RECALLED CSIR WAS SUBCONTRACTOR OPERATING NASA TRACKING FACILITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE LET US HAVE ANY NASA INSTRUCTIONS PRIOR TO THIS CALL.
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: UNIDENTIFIED OBJECTS DETECTION, SPACE FRAGMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PRETOR02947
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750274-0242
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750877/aaaacqey.tel
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Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
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EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPACE OBJECT REPORTED IN CAPE PROVINCE
TAGS: PFOR, PINR, TSPA, SF, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
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